

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANAA 01304 281458Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 281415Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5597

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 1304

EXDIS

TO ATHERTON FROM SCOTES

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, YE

SUBJECT: JEEP SHIPMENT TO YARG ARMED FORCES

1. AS YOU DOUBTLESS AWARE YARG ARMED FORCES BOUGHT AND PAID FOR AN ORDER OF 30 JEEPS EARLY THIS YEAR. YEMENIS UNDERSTOOD THAT VEHICLES WOULD BE DELIVERED FAIRLY PROMPTLY AND HAVE BEEN LITERALLY BUGGING ME AND MY MILITARY ATTACHE ABOUT THIS MATTER EVERY TIME WE HAVE MEETINGS WITH THE MIN OF STAFF AND WITH OTHER YEMENI OFFICIALS. I APPRECIATE FULLY THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN GETTING ORDERS PROCESSED THROUGH THE WASHINGTON MUNITIONS BUREAUCRACY AS WELL AS THE PROBLEM FACED IN FINDING CARGO SHIPS COMING IN THE DIRECTION OF HODEIDA. (THE OPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL SHOULD SPEED THINGS UP) HAVING SAID THAT, HOWEVER, I AM NOW GETTING CONCERNED THAT THE GOOD WILL WHICH WE HAVE BUILD UP WITH THE YEMENI ARMY AND PARTICULARLY WITH CHIEF OF STAFF GHASHMI MAY BE WEARING A BIT THIN.

2. I KNOW HOW BUSY YOU ARE, BUT COULD I ENLIST YOUR HELP IN SEEING THAT ALL EFFORTS BE MADE TO EXPEDITE THE DELIVERY OF THESE THIRTY JEEPS TO ARRIVE HERE THIS SUMMER, THE EARLIER THE BETTER. IT'S A SMALL ORDER, BUT AS YOU KNOW SMALL GESTURES GO A LONG WAY IN YEMEN. MOREOVER, IN VIEW OF THE RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HERE, AL-HAMDI AND HIS GROUP NOW NEED SOME TANGIBLE EARNEST OF OUR INTENTIONS GOWARD HIS REGIME. THE PROMPT DELIVERY OF THESE THIRTY JEEPS

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WILL CERTAINLY HELP UNTIL SUCH TIME AS WE AND THE SAUDIS

BEGIN THE PROJECTED MODERNIZATION PROGRAM OF THE YEMEN ARMY.
SCOTES

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NNN

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